

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A cooking appliance includes a cooktop having at least one heating zone having first and second heating elements and a control element for setting a desired cooking temperature for the heating zone. When the
5 control element is rotated in a first direction, only the first heating element will be activated and, when rotated in a second direction, both the first and second heating elements are activated. The control element includes a variable resistor that changes resistance as the control element is rotated through nearly 360° to alter the operational state of the heating
10 element(s). A controller senses the change in resistance and determines in which direction the control element is rotated so as to activate the appropriate heating element(s).